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Industries.

751. The expansion of the Government Porcelain Factory at an estimated cost of Rs. 63 lakhs which has been agreed to by the Planning Commission was sanctioned. The Planning Commission have also promised a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs for starting small scale and Cottage industries and providing assistance to educated unemployed to start industries of their own. The Rural Industrialisation Scheme was extended to the Mandya District during the year, and a provision of Rs. 16 lakhs is made in the Budget for the current year to extend the scheme to all the districts of the State.

Education.

752. Sixty-three Primary Schools, 43 Middle Schools and three High Schools were opened during the year and 50 additional teachers for Primary Schools and 83 additional teachers for Middle Schools were employed during the year. Under the Government of India sponsored scheme for increasing employment facilities, 201 Primary Schools were opened and 476 teachers were appointed. Forty Social Education Centres were started.

Medical Relief.

753. Twelve Rural Dispensaries were started during the year and 50 more beds were added to the Shantha Bai Devarao Shivaram Sanatorium.

Animal Husbandry.

754. Twelve Veterinary Dispensaries were opened during the year.

Food Production Scheme.

755. Twenty thousand and seven hundred pallas of seed paddy and 13,250 tons of fertilisers were distributed to the ryots. Two thousand seven hundred and forty-five acres of land were tractor ploughed and the Bull-dozers worked for 7,720 hours in reclaiming lands. Seventy-five tanks have been restored.

(vii) Labour.

756. The Commissioner of Labour also continued to be Chief Inspector of Factories and Boilers, Workmen's Compensation Commissioner for the State, Conciliation Officer for the State under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Chief Inspector of Plantations, Registrar of Trade Unions, Statistics Authority under the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942 and Certifying Authority under the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act.

757. Labour conditions in the State were generally peaceful during the year but for a few minor disturbances here and there. In all such cases, due to constant vigilance and timely intervention by the Departmental Officers, the situation was brought under control resulting in the restoration of normal conditions with minimum loss of production.

758. One disquieting feature readily observable in the labour administration of the State during the year was the large scale closure of many medium sized industries and Oorgaum Mines, under unfavourable market conditions which resulted in a considerable increase in the volume of unemployment in the State.

Industrial Disputes.

759. One hundred and seventy complaints and industrial disputes were investigated by the Labour Department during the year. Of these, 47 related to demands for reinstatement of discharged workers, 25 to increase in the rates of wages, two to bonus, seven to dearness allowances, five to leave facilities, two to service conditions, and 82 to other causes.

760. Of the 170 cases received, 102 disputes were settled by conciliation, 18 by mutual agreement between the parties themselves, one was withdrawn, 24 ending in failure and 25 pending disposal at the end of the year.

761. One notable event occurring in the labour-management relations in the State needs special mention. That is, the INDUSTRIAL TRUCE brought about between the Management and employees of the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati, one of the biggest Government-owned Industrial concerns in the State.

762. In the wake of this settlement in September 1953 an Industrial Peace Drive was organised and the same was inaugurated on 9th September 1953 by the Minister for Industries under the Presidentship of the Minister for Law, and Education.

Strikes and Lock-outs.

763. There were 28 cases of strikes and lock-outs during the year. The total number of workers involved in the strikes and lock-outs and the total number of man-days lost during the period were 44,342 and 63,338, respectively.

764. The Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati. has been declared as public utility service.

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765. The State Government referred 29 cases for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunals.

766. Awards were published in 60 cases of which two relate to the awards by the Labour Appellate Tribunal of India.

Number of Factories and Operatives.

767. There were 703 Industrial concerns in the State employing 87,933 operatives of which 77,319 were men, 10,350 women and 264 children. Besides the above, there were 72,000 labourers employed in the plantations with an acreage of about 90,363.

Security of Service.

768. Security of service was generally ensured to the workers employed in large industrial concerns coming under the purview of Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946. Work Service Rules guaranteed service conditions of employees in Government Industrial concerns. Service conditions of shop assistants were prescribed and security of service was guaranteed under the Mysore Shops and Establishments Act, 1948. Besides, the benefits of Employees Provident Fund Scheme were available to all the employees in the Scheduled Industries.

Wage Rates, Dearness Allowance and Bonus.

769. With the exception of the silk industry which registered a slight fall in the wage rates, as compared to the previous years, in all the other industries it approximated with the rates prevailing during the previous year. This was probably due to the general fall of prices of consumers' goods.

Dearness Allowance.

770. The rates of dearness allowance paid differed from factory to factory. Some of the major industrial concerns in Bangalore and Mysore Cities and the Mines at K.G.F. continued to pay dearness allowance on the basis of the cost of living index figures published by the Labour Department, while other concerns continued to pay at flat rates. Government Industrial Concerns, both Central and State, paid at the rates prescribed from time to time by the respective Governments.

Bonus.

771. Half-yearly, yearly, production and profit bonus were also paid by several industrial concerns in addition to dearness allowance.

772. The total amount of dearness allowance and bonus paid during the year amounted to Rs. 2,84,63,109, (Rs. 2,92,36,553) and Rs. 56,40,113 (Rs. 47,58,877) respectively.

Trade Unions.

773. There were 143 registered Trade Unions/Associations in the State at the beginning of the year and 29 Unions were registered during the year, thus bringing the total number to 172. But consequent on the merger of certain taluks of Bellary District with Mysore State, seven Unions functioning therein were transferred to the Mysore State. This raised the total number of Trade Unions/Associations to 179.

774. The total membership of Trade Unions came up to about 68,000 (87,933).

775. Annual elections were conducted in the case of 64 Trade Unions during the year.

Standing Orders.

776. Standing Orders in respect of 77 industrial concerns had been settled in previous years and during the year the Standing Orders of two concerns were certified thus bringing the total number of standing orders settled to 79; and standing orders in respect of 188 concerns have yet to be settled as per Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.

777. In addition to the two fresh settlements indicated above, the Standing Orders of Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati, and Messrs. Glandstone Lyall & Co., Ltd., Mysore, which were settled as per the erstwhile Mysore Labour Act, 1942, were revised so as to be in conformity with the Central Act.

778. Amendments to the Standing Orders of the Tobacco Manufacturers (India), Ltd., Bangalore and Indian Telephone Industries, Ltd., Duravaninagar, Bangalore, were also effected during the year.

779. On the strength of the recommendations made by the Minimum Wages (Agricultural) Committee, minimum wages in respect of certain employments in agriculture were fixed by Government from 1st January 1954.

Shops and Establishments.

780. The Commissioner of Labour continued to administer the provisions of the Mysore Shops and Establishments Act, 1948.

781. The Act was in force in Bangalore Corporation Area, Mysore, Davangere and K.G.F. Cities, Kolar, Tumkur, Chickmagalur, Bhadravati and Shimoga Towns and in Bellary and Hospet.

782. There were 27,261 shops and establishments employing about 28,039 shops assistants in cities and towns.

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Labour Statistics.

783. The cost of Living Index Numbers of Mysore, Bangalore and K.G.F. Cities were regularly compiled published in the State and Departmental Gazette and forwarded to the Government of India, Government of Mysore and other States. In order to maintain these figures on a scientific basis (as also to have a correct picture of the expenditure pattern of the working classes, that is subject to alteration from time to time) certain staff to conduct the resurvey into the family budgets of industrial workers in these three places was sanctioned in January 1953.

784. The provisional cost of living numbers for Harihar, Davangere, Bhadravati, Hassan and Mandya were also compiled.

Labour Information Office.

785. The Department was regularly publishing every month, *Mysore Labour Gazette,* an official organ of publicity, in English, Kannada and Tamil. In addition, the Department also published the Directory of the Department and Trade Unions in the State, pamphlets, folders, and brochures of labour interest in simple language with a view to enlighten the labour and the management in regard to the rights and obligations of workers and employers and to give a factual and objective account of labour problems in as much as it is realised from experience that industrial unrest in a large measure is due to misunderstandings based on lack of adequate information on the part of both labour and management.

786. A special feature during the year was the publication of Industrial Peace Drive Souvenir in commemoration of the Industrial Truce brought between the labour and the management of Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati, on 9th September 1953.

787. As part of its programme of publicity and propaganda the Department participated in the Dasara Exhibition at Mysore and exhibited charts, posters, models, etc., bearing on labour statistics and labour welfare and safety with a view to educate the public. The departmental exhibits were widely appreciated and won the gold medal.

Labour Welfare.

788. Two model Labour Welfare Centres in the working class areas in Bangalore City run by the Department afforded recreation and other facilities such as indoor games, reading rooms, library, etc., to the labourers.

789. The services of five trained officers of the Department were lent to Government owned and controlled

industrial concerns to be appointed as Labour Welfare Officers.

790. The provision of amenities to the labour continued to receive the attention of the employers. The employers of large industrial concerns continued to afford extra facilities to their employers such as housing, canteens, bathing ghats, dhoby khans, milk supply centres, medical aid, maternity homes, free ambulance service, co-operative stores, etc. Some industrial concerns provided educational facilities such as grant-in-aid schools for children and running of adult literacy classes.

791. Creches for workers' children with necessary equipment and staff were provided by large industrial concerns.

792. Recreation facilities such as sports, clubs, playgrounds, theatres and radio installations were also provided in large industrial concerns.

793. Some of the Labour Associations/Unions were running their own co-operative societies, reading rooms and radio installations.

(viii) Workmen's Compensation.

794. The Labour Commissioner was the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation with jurisdiction over the State of Mysore and the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts were the Commissioners for Workmen's Compensation for the respective Districts.

795. There were 44 cases pending disposal in the Courts of the Commissioners for Workmen's Compensation at the beginning of the year. The number of cases of both industrial accidents and industrial diseases filed were 3,769 of which 36 related to fatal accidents, 3,733 to non-fatal. The number of cases for disposal during the year was 3,813 including the cases pending at the commencement of the year, of which 3,754 were disposed of (fatal 40 and non-fatal 3,714).

796. The average amount of compensation paid during the year in respect of each fatal accident was Rs. 1,905-9-0. The amount of compensation paid to permanent disablement was Rs. 962 and temporary disablement was Rs. 22·2 respectively.